NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

DATE:

AGENCY COORDINATOR: Clifton Clarke, Superintendent of Building & Grounds

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This Sustainability Plan has been reviewed and approved by Mark J. Andrews, Vice President of Administration

at Northern Essex Community College on

Signature of Agency Head or other Appropriate Designee

1. Agency Information, Impact Identification & Sustainability Team

1.1 Agency Description and Scope

Northern Essex Community College is a public, two-year College located in both Haverhill & Lawrence, Massachusetts that offers comprehensive programs of study leading to the Associate in Arts degree, the Associate in Science degree and the Certificates of program completion. The College employs 299 full-time staff, 124 parttime staff and 440 adjunct faculty. Northern Essex Community College is to serve the people of the Greater Merrimack Valley as a caring and comprehensive center of educational excellence that offers high quality, affordable adult and post secondary education through the Associate Degree level, as well as a broad range of occupational programs and community services which enhance the social, cultural and economic life of the region. The Haverhill Campus is located on 110 acres with nine (9) buildings totaling 362,000 square feet directly abuts Kenoza Lake which is the city of Haverhill's water supply. Our Lawrence Campus locations are located on a total of 3 acres - our Franklin Street Campus has one (1) building totaling 60,000 sq. ft. and the licensed Amesbury Street Campus has one (1) building totaling 20,000 sq. ft. The College has taken strident efforts to maintain the best level of environmental safety and protections for this area and surrounding environs. This is especially noted during the planning phases of the new Technology Training Center located at the southwest portion of the Haverhill Campus. During the winter months, all College maintenance staff strictly adheres to a salt-free environment. Also, NECC was one of the first colleges to self-audit under EPA guidelines.

1.2 Agency Impacts on the Environment and Human Health

NECC realizes that it is a generator of an array of waste types. These include hazardous waste, universal waste, bio waste, and trash associated with basic human consumption. Under the College's Master Energy Program, we have worked aggressively to diversify heating and cooling costs. This includes our program to convert electric heating systems to natural gas to provide us with the greatest environmental return. The College has a contract with Clean Harbors, a certified state vendor, to remove hazardous waste, universal waste and bio waste. For fiscal year 2005, the approximate cost for this contract is \$3,000.

The College has designed a recycling program in partnership with our host cities, Haverhill and Lawrence, Massachusetts. In essence, the College follows the lead city and has partnered with their recycling programs. Additionally, NECC implemented "NECC Brightside" in the spring of 1998. This program was developed to involve staff, faculty and students to work at various locations at each campus to plant flowers, edge, weed and rake. This program provides a high level of "esprit de corp" among students, faculty and staff to recognize the monumental return on our investment to protect the environment. On May 30, 2005, the College received the "Environmental Hero Award" from the City of Haverhill and acknowledged by the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce.

Prior to a response rate of 65% in 2002, the College was already conducting carpool matching, providing transit passes, posting bus schedules, rates and routes, negotiating with bus providers, and conducting van pool matching. Since the base year of 2002, the College has also provided preferential parking for carpools and established bicycling incentives. By maintaining the College's original incentives and establishing the two (2) new ones between 2002 and 2004, the College was able to reduce its drive alone computer trips (DACTS) by 122 or 1%. The College will continue to maintain its current incentives to try to further reduce DACTS, and will add new ones if/when feasible.

1.3 Agency Operational Costs

Northern Essex Community College consumes 9,041,560 kilowatt hours of electricity per year and costs approximately \$806,564.00 annually; consumes 42,161 CCF of natural gas at an annual cost of \$43,590; uses 11,286 CCF for water/sewerage for an annual cost of \$43,675.00; utilizes 5,100 gallons of gasoline totaling \$9,435.00 annually; and \$65,107 is the cost for the disposal of trash.

1.4 Agency Sustainability Team Members

Mark Andrews, Vice President of Administration
Clifton Clarke, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds
Linda Hudson, Assistant to the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds
Allison Gagne, Facilities Coordinator
Stephen Fabbrucci, Human Resources
John Maguire, Student
Denise Johnson, Director of City of Haverhill's Brightside
Daniel Halloran, Workforce Development Specialist, Center for Bus. & Industry

2. Long-Term Goals/Vision

2.1 <u>Long-Term Goals</u>

In 1998 Northern Essex Community College developed a Master Space Capital Improvement Program for the Haverhill Campus. As part of this plan, the College has worked hard to replace and/or strengthen the building infrastructure and then, conserve energy. This includes the replacement of roofs to the Library Building, Student Center, Science Building, Applied Science Building and Gymnasium and the heating and cooling systems in the Library Building, Student Center and Gymnasium. Our long-term goal is to maintain this plan for both the Haverhill and Lawrence Campuses and respond to deferred maintenance needs in an effective, timely and efficient manner.

3. Short-Term Actions and Priorities

3.1 Priority and Areas Goals

Our short-term goals are to replace the roof on the Spurk (Academic) Building and to replace three (3) heat pumps at our Lawrence Main Campus.

3.2 Agency Action Steps

Our short-term action step is to develop a bid specification to successfully bid and award the Spurk (Academic) Building roof replacement in Fiscal Year 2006. Also, to replace three (3) heat pumps at the Lawrence Main Campus.

4. Management Systems and Institutionalization

4.1 Integrating Environmental Impacts into Key Decision Points

The Vice President of Administration and Finance will support and actively pursue funding for our long-term and short-term action priorities.

4.2 Education and Training of Staff

Northern Essex Community College provides various publications including professionally developed seminars and campus newsletters.

4.3 Management Systems

Our committee will deliberate on all action points and report on progress made.

5. Tracking Progress and Program/Plan Review

5.1 Agency Tracking and Reporting Form

Northern Essex Community College will submit our college monitoring plan as required.

5.2 <u>Continuous Improvement</u>

Northern Essex Community College has strived to provide a solid foundation to implement and achieve the goals of our mission in conjunction with the principles of sustainability. We will work to bring a higher level of knowledge and discourse to the College Community and actively seek input on our plan.

Appendix 4 - Agency Sustainability Workplan Worksheet

For Use in Section 3 of the Agency Plan Template "Short Term Actions and Priorities" and should be submitted as part of the agency plan.

This worksheet is intended to help agencies develop an action plan to help identify the key sustainable activities the agency wants to address, as well as identify the key staff necessary to ensure program success. The information provided here is for sample purposes only

Agency Sustainability Workplan Worksheet

| Sustainable Goal | Benefits | Specific Tasks | Responsible Staff | Timeline |
|---|--|--|---|--------------|
| Increase the paper and cardboard recycling effort. | Waste Reduction Cost Savings | Re-educate campus community about program. Upgrade and increase the amount of recycling bins campus-wide. | Buildings & Grounds Administrative Services | January 2006 |
| Increase the plastic, glass and metal recycling effort. | Waste ReductionCost Savings | Increase staffing. Introduce a workable approach to container recycling. | Buildings & GroundsAdministrative Services | May 2006 |
| Reduce electric consumption through conservation efforts. | Reduce electrical & gas consumption | Maximize conservation efforts. Continue to replace electric water heaters. Continue to install automatic shut off light sensors. | Buildings & Grounds | Ongoing |
| Increase shuttle service. | Energy savingsCost savingsReduce emissions | Expand existing shuttle services. Increase seating capacity. | Buildings & GroundsAdministrative ServicesRegistrar | Ongoing |
| Increase carpooling | Energy savingsReduce emissionsCost savings | Increase publicity. Provide information to encourage carpooling. | Human ResourcesPublic Relations | Ongoing |